

May 14, 1973

445, was a vote to sustain what I thought was an extremely courageous position that this legislature took to uphold the tax payer of the State. Since we did not do that, my no vote will be misunderstood, but my yes vote for feeding children will not be, will not be misunderstood.

SPEAKER: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, point of personal privilege.

SPEAKER: Speak your point please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I voted the way I did, yes on 445 and 445A, and I was consistent with the position I've taken ever since the precipitous, ill considered action on 259 of the Governor's budget bill. I knew we were going to have to come to this point and I'm going to get my pound of flesh now. I had asked and asked us, to think about how in the past actions have been taken, with a steel clad will, and then before the session was over, there was some melting, like hot candle wax to use the term. That is occurring now and I think before people begin to pat the legislature on the back too much for taking a courageous stand in behalf of the tax payers, on that first action, that action was not taken on behalf of the tax payers, that action was taken to slap down the Governor. I want us to keep these things in perspective and if we made a mistake this session I feel we are going to repeat it next one too. I feel this has been one of the most unproductive legislative sessions since I've been here. If you review the legislation which has been passed, we can not take that to show that where as we were not spending money, we were taking care of other matters that the legislature should be concerned about. I feel that in these last few days, there are some worthwhile bills, which can be passed. But Senator Schmit, I don't think that the one, he is not here, I don't think that the bill we are concerned about has any chance of passage. Which is the one which would fee hungry children, because there are still Senators in this body, who feel that there are not children who are hungry. In fact, they feel there is no hunger in the State. They feel that everything is all right with the State. I think that things are very wrong with the State and some of the comments that are being made on the floor of the legislature now, show me how quickly people can forget the true motive behind actions that were placed. I hope not only is there a hole in this dam, as it has been called, I hope the whole thing is broken. I hope it will be washed away now with good sense and will spend the money which is necessary. Whereas I won't be able to vote for Senator Carpenter's services tax bill, I would vote for a tax on intangibles, I'd be willing to vote to raise the corporation tax. I'd be willing to do anything to place the burden of spending on those who have the money. Those who gain the most benefits from the State and thus far this legislature has shown itself this session to be a legislature of by and for special interests groups and money groups, not of by and for the people. I think some integrity can be salvaged at the tail end of this session and I hope that it is. Remember this one thing, the big interest and the money interest have the means and the power to take care of their own rights. They control the legal system, they control the political system, they control the economy and to drag in that tainted presidency again, Watergate shows you how if a man commits a crime, on a big enough scale, not only does he go unpunished, but people who know as plain as the nose on their face, that he is guilty of a crime, will begin to excuse him, forgive him and say that the most cunning knowledgeable politician that this country has produced in a long time, does not know what was going on. I'm going to